

Scrip Talk



April 2005

Volume # 33

Issue # 132

City of Beckley 1938 Centennial
Commemorative Scrip ~ Front

Scrip Talk

1818 Harper Rd
Beckley WV 25801



National Scrip Collectors Association

The **National Scrip Collectors Association** was officially organized on October 21, 1972 in Fayetteville WV. The objectives and purposes of the organization are to promote the collection of coal company scrip and related tokens, to cultivate good relations between collectors of scrip tokens, and to encourage the study and research of the history of coal mining companies as it relates to the usage of scrip tokens.

In the late 1970's the scope of the **NCSA** was broadened to include tokens from other industries; including lumber, phosphate, hard rock, limestone, copper, gold & silver, brick & clay, cotton & textile, paper, iron & steel, agricultural, and others.

The first issue of *Scrip Talk* was published in 1965, and it continues today as the official newsletter for members of the **NSCA**. It exists not only as a source of information for its members, but as a forum where they can share items of interest. Please feel free to submit or suggest articles for future publication.



2005 NSCA Officers

Walter "Doc" Fletcher • President
PO Box 618 Pikeville, KY 41502-0618

John Podgursky • Vice-President
24 Hemlock Lane Ellysburg, PA 47112

James Singleton • Vice-President
PO Box 41 Hughston, WV 25110

Harold "Corkey" Snodgrass • Vice-President
PO Box 142 MacArthur, WV 25873

Crawford Blakeman, Sr. • Treasurer
PO Box 536 Middlesboro, KY 40965

Kevin Traube • Secretary/Editor
1818 Harper Rd Beckley, WV 25801

2005 NSCA Spring Show

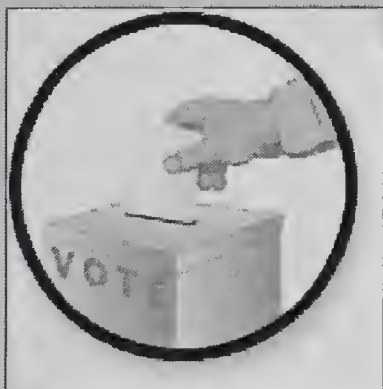
The weekend begins Friday, April 29, at 6 p.m. with a free banquet for all club members at the Beckley Comfort Inn conference room. Scrip collecting business will then begin.

Saturday hours are from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The public is invited and the show has been promoted locally.

For room reservations call 888-259-8542, or Jim Singleton at 304/442-8214 with questions.



City of Beckley 1938 Centennial
Commemorative Scrip ~ Back



Elections!

It's time to prepare for our next club election—all offices will be open. Please come to the Spring Show prepared to nominate candidates for each position. Details of how the election will be handled will be announced at the show.

A list of club offices and the individuals filling those positions appears on page 2 of each issue of Scrip Talk.

The Pinnacle Explosion

By Steve Sodosky

I was seven years-old in 1924 when the slate dump blew. My father worked in American Coal Company's Pinnacle Mine, and we lived in a company house in the company town.

Slate taken from the mine was tossed in a pile and this pile was at least 70 feet tall. I used to climb on it with my friends and we could see through cracks in its surface the glow of the smoldering coal and slate deep down inside it.

It had rained for several days and the pond uphill from the slate pile began to leak and ran down into the hot slate. My father had already started work inside the mine for the morning, and my mother had gone out to milk the cow. She noticed the sky turning

cloudy with smoke from the slate as the water poured into it. She grabbed us six kids and ran up the hollow about 3/4 of a mile.

When the pile exploded it shook the ground so hard that the men inside the mine could feel it, though it caused no damage there. Outside, it was a different story.

The explosion destroyed several houses and killed ten people, including one entire family. One fellow was taking a bath to clean up after working the night inside the mine, and he ended up running into the woods with just a towel around him.

The picture shows the steam shovel digging the bodies of the dead people out of the debris.



Special thanks to Jack Chapman for photo assistance.



JACK CHAPMAN'S THIRTY-DAY SCRIP AUCTION**Starting Date** 4/29/05**Ending Date** 5/29/05

Lot #	Scrip #	Company and Town	R rating	Condition	Min. bid
1	WV769-F100	Lando Coal Corporation, Delbarton, WV	R7	very fine	\$15.00
2	WV2269-A10	Red Jacket Consolidated Coal Co., Red Jacket, WV	R6	fine	\$15.00
3	WV2269-D10	Red Jacket Consolidated Coal Co., Red Jacket, WV	R7	fine	\$15.00
4	WV83H5a	Red Jacket Consolidated Coal Co., Amigo, WV	R8	very fine	\$20.00
5	WV2943-A10	War Eagle Supply co., War Eagle, WV	R7	very fine	\$18.00
6	KY2056-A25	Pond Creek Colliery of N&W RY (New Camp, KY)	R8	very fine	\$20.00
7	KY1617-A5	Marian Coal Company, Letcher, KY (bi-metal)	R6	very fine	\$15.00
8	KY483-A10	KY Caardinal Coal Corp., Cardinal, KY	R9	fine	\$20.00
9	KY2655-G500	Stearns Coal & Lumber Co., Stearns, KY	R6	very fine	\$20.00
10	WV2097-H500	Fordson Coal Co., Nuttallburg, WV	R7	very fine	\$15.00
11	WV1021-A100	Douglas Coal Co., Fireco, WV coal car	R8	very fine	\$20.00
12	WV2173-B100a	Panther Coal Company, Panther, WV	R4	fine	\$10.00
13	WV499-A100(LBR)	Dawes Mercantile Co., Dawes, WV	R5	fine	\$10.00
14	ARK260-A200(LBR)	Loutre Lumber Co., Cargille, ARK	R4	very fine	\$10.00
15	WVC156(exploder)	Crab Orchard Improvement, Eccles, WV	D	very fine	\$15.00
16	TN755-A100	Straight Fork Coal Company, Dean, TN	R5	very fine	\$10.00
17	TN755-A50	Straight Fork Coal Company, Dean, TN	R6	very fine	\$10.00
18	TN755-A25	Straight Fork Coal Company, Dean, TN	R5	very fine	\$10.00
19	TN755-A1	Straight Fork Coal Company, Dean, TN	R8	very fine	\$15.00
20	WV421-C10c	Imperial Colliery Co., Burnwell, WV	R6	very fine	\$10.00
21	WV1661-C100a	Aracoma Coal Company, Logan, WV	R9	very fine	\$20.00
22	WV3019-C100	The New River Company, Wikham, WV	R8	very fine	\$20.00
23	WV2137-B50	Chaplin Supply Company, Osage, WV	R5	very fine	\$7.00
24	VA2459-A100	Panther Coal Company, Roseann, VA	R3	very fine	\$7.00
25	VA2459-A25	Panther Coal Company, Roseann, VA	R3	very fine	\$7.00
26	VA2807-G500	Blue Diamond Coal Co., Toms Creek, VA	R6	fine	\$15.00
27	VA2495-W500	The Virginia-Lee Company, St. Charles, VA	R7	very fine	\$15.00
28	VA263-A500	Buchanan County Coal Corp., Big Rock, VA	R7	very fine	\$15.00
29	KY193-F500	Kirk Mercantile Company, Beech Creek, KY	R7	very fine	\$15.00
30	KY1683-E500	Cornett-Lewis Ccoal Co., Louellen, KY	R7	very fine	\$25.00
31	KY839-A100	East Harlan Coal Co., Draper, KY	R7	fine	\$15.00
32	KY3109-A5a	Harlan Fuel Co., Yancy, KY	R5	vg-fine	\$4.99
33	KY1651-A25	Bell Coal Co., Little Creek, KY	R6	very fine	\$7.50
34	KY3009-C25A	Sand Lick Coal Co., Whitesburg, KY	R7	AU	\$9.99
35	KY1879-G5	Pacific Coal Co., Mercer, KY	R4	very fine	\$4.99
36	KY1013-B10	Kentucky Ridge Coal Co., Field, KY	R4	fine	\$4.99
37	KY2793-G100	Harland Industrial Collieries Co., Tinsley, KY	R4	very fine	\$4.99
38	KY297-E10	Big Jim Coal Co., Blanche, KY	R8	fine	\$9.99
39	KY2999-F100	Inland Steel Co., Wheelwright, KY	R9	very fine	\$30.00
40	KY3109-A100b	Harlan Fuel Co., Yancy, KY	R8	fine	\$20.00
41	KY2929-K50	Wallins Creek Coal Co., Wallins, KY	R5	fine	\$10.00
42	KY535-C1	The Johnson Supply Co, Chavies, KY	R8	mint	\$10.00
43	KY2999-C10	Inland Steel Co., Wheelwright, KY	R5	fine	\$7.50
44	MFG-ST-50	Advance Coal Mining Co., sample scrip (50 cents)	R3	very fine	\$7.50
45	IL2133-A100	West Frankfort Mercantile Co., Orient, IL	R4	fine	\$5.00

Send bids to: Jack Chapman, 166 Chapman Rd., Shady Springs, WV 25918 (304) 763-5048

Lot# _____ Amount of Bid _____ Lot# _____ Amount of Bid _____

Lot# _____ Amount of Bid _____ Lot# _____ Amount of Bid _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____, State: _____, Zip: _____

Scrip and invoice will be mailed to winning bidders. Payment must be sent by return mail.



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Tell a Friend....



About the NSCA!

Spread the word about the National Scrip Collectors Association: a mere \$15 gets a year's membership, six copies of the Scrip Talk newsletter, the ability to place free ads in Scrip Talk to buy-sell-trade with other collectors, and the opportunity to attend and participate in the NSCA Spring and Fall shows.

The handy form to the right—and \$15—is all it takes! Spread the word, promote the club, and improve scrip collecting for everyone!



NEW ____

ReNEW ____

One Year ~ \$15
Five Years ~ \$60
Life Membership ~ \$300

NAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE:

ZIP:

e-MAIL:

SCRIP TALK 1818 Harper Rd
Beckley WV 25801

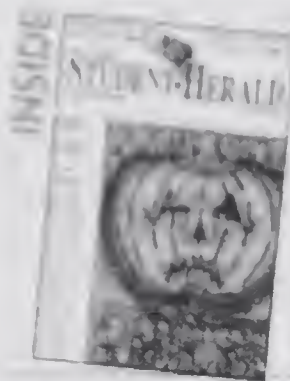
NEW FINDS

If you find scrip that's not listed in either volume of the Edkins Catalogues, please let us know so that we can update the books and alert other collectors. All new finds [and corrections for the Edkins guides] should go to: Bill Fugera, 28732 Charreadas St, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677 fugewilj@cox.net.

If you have access to a digital camera & the internet, please send clear pictures of both sides of the token to Bill, as well as any other pertinent information you might have about the piece. You may also make a foil impression of the coin and send that to Bill.

Recent New Finds Activity

Mine	Town	Denomination	Metal	Man
Red Jacket Jr	Red Jacket	10 cents	Brass	ICS
Red Jacket Jr	Red Jacket	25	Brass	ICS
Amer Eagle	Ameagle	5	Bi	?
Amer Eagle	Ameagle	C1	?	?
Kenner McCoy	Williamson	1	Brass	ISC2
Houston C & C	Elkhorn	1	?	ISC1
Angus Coal	Slagle	25	Nickel ?	ICS
W Va Pocahontas Coll	Secoma	1	Brass	Orco



THE REGISTER-HERALD

WORLD: Insurgents launch new attacks in Iraq | 1B



NFL DRAFT: Rasheed Marshall drafted by San Francisco | 1C

Beckley, West Virginia

Monday, April 25, 2005

50 cents

IT'S ALL IN THE SCRIP



F. BRIAN FERGUSON / THE REGISTER-HERALD

Harold "Corkey" Snodgress holds up some of his collection of scrip, which is part of his 3,000 completed sets.

Show will bring collectors to Beckley

By Bev Davis
REGISTER-HERALD SENIOR EDITOR

He's known as "the king of scrip collectors," and Harold "Corkey" Snodgress wears the title proudly. "I have the largest collection of anywhere around," he said.

With 3,000 completed sets and about as many more started, few can dispute his claim.

Born at Statesbury, Snodgress grew up around the coal mines and was familiar with the use of scrip — a medium of exchange used by coal company employees in the 1800s.

Miners were given scrip in advance of their wages to buy necessities for their homes, to pay rent on the company-owned houses they lived in, to buy needed mining supplies for work, for utilities, for medical care and even to contribute to a mandatory funeral fund — all paid to the company.

"When you worked in the mines, and you needed money during the week, they printed scrip and they would deduct it from your pay," Snodgress said.

Although he never worked in the mines, this retired telephone company employee

See **SCRIP**, 8A

—who put in nearly 38 years at his job — has always been fascinated with scrip.

He's knowledgeable not only about its history, but knows how to collect it, where the best places to buy and sell are and how to find scrip and clean it.

"I know the value of just about any piece I see because I've dealt with it so long," he said of the hobby that began in 1972. "I sold a piece to a fellow a few weeks ago for \$15. That's what it was worth. He sold it on e-Bay for \$100 because the person who bought it really didn't know that much about the value of it."

The value differs according to the company that

issued it and how much of any given type of scrip is available.

"The more rare it is and the less there is of it, the more valuable it is," Snodgress said.

His smallest denomination is a 3-cent piece; the largest a \$20 piece.

His collection — stored in a walk-in vault at his home — includes such sets as the 1896-dated Woolridge set. If you want to see the different shapes Old Abe in St. Johns, Ill., issued its scrip in, Snodgress has it.

"I've learned so much history and so much about coal towns all across the United States," he said.

"I've traveled everywhere buying and selling.

When we have sales here in Beckley, people come from everywhere to buy and trade."

Scrip collectors will converge at the Comfort Inn in Beckley for a banquet Friday and an all-day trade show Saturday.

"If anyone is interested in scrip, this would be a great time to come out and see some of the best collections anywhere and to ask questions and learn more about it," Snodgress said.

Reservations are required for the banquet, but the show is open to the public.

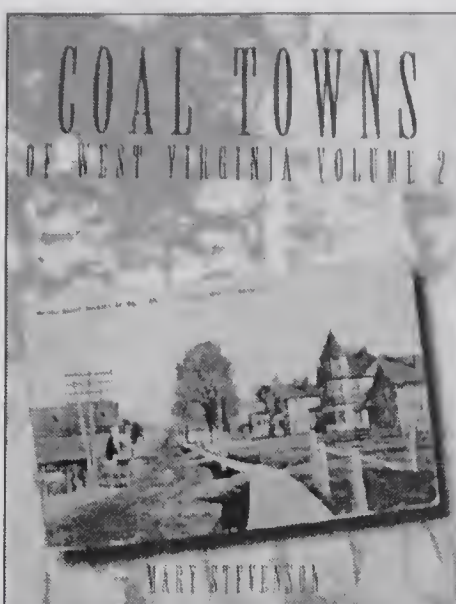
For more information, call 253-5446

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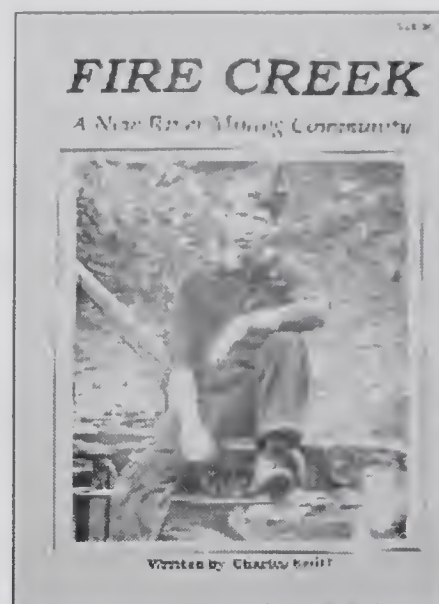
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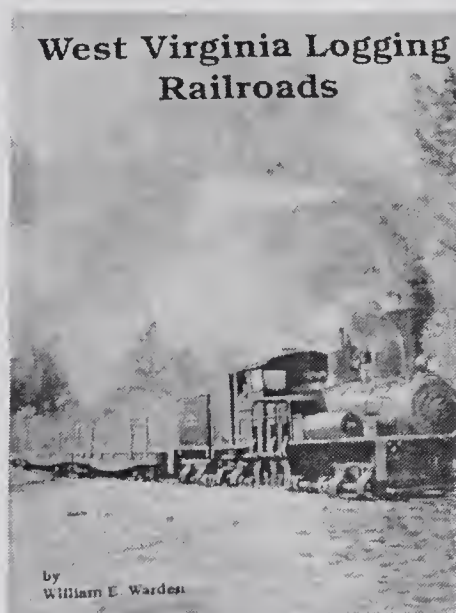


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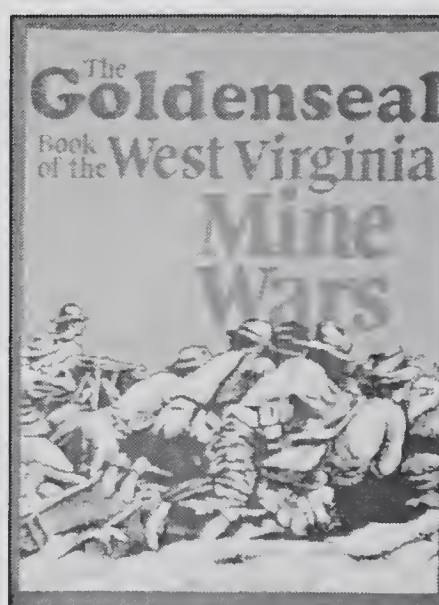
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Free Ads are available to N.S.C.A. members at no charge. The only requirements being that they are limited to 4 lines, one ad per issue. **You may send up to four different ads in one mailing.** Deadline for Free Ads is three weeks after the postmark of the current issue of SCRIP TALK. All ads received after the deadline will be held for the following issue. No ad will rerun automatically, each issue will require a separate request. Paid ads should be sent to SCRIP TALK Editor and NOT the Free Ad Editor. **SEND ALL FREE ADS TO: Steve Ratliff, N.S.C.A. Free Ad Editor, 1717 Saint Marys Bay Drive, Milton, Florida 32583-7343** or E-mail [Steve@Ratliff.com](mailto:Steve@Ratliff.com) {Note: + at the end of your ad indicates you need to renew it.)

W.VA. COAL TOKENS 3/\$10.00 AND KY COAL TOKENS 2/\$10.00. Lists invited. Also have lumber, TN & AL coal tokens. Gene Miller, 3306 Startan Ct., Louisville, KY 40220-2111 + **WANTED: A PIECE OF SCRIP FROM MOLUS (HARLAN COUNTY).** Any denomination. Please send price and description including condition to: Jim Warren, 2201 W. Wiltshire Road, Muncie, IN 47305 [JimLaq@aol.com](mailto:JimLaq@aol.com) +

**FLORIDA TOKENS WANTED** - Florida tokens of all types wanted. Send 60¢ stamp for free sample of Florida Token Society's newsletter, TOKENNEWS and request free Florida token. Check out the Florida Token Society web site: <http://www.steve.ratliff.com/fts/> - you can join and pay dues on-line! Steve Ratliff, 1717 Saint Marys Bay Dr, Milton, FL 32583-7343 [Steve@Ratliff.com](mailto:Steve@Ratliff.com)

**WANTED: PENNSYLVANIA MISCELLANEOUS EXPLOSIVE TOKENS** MX7 (Carnegie Supply), MX12 (Warden Mine), MX20 (Mutual Supply Store 3), MX21 (Mutual Supply Store 4) and MX26 (Oakmont Consumers Mining). Contact me at: [richardbottlesjr@peoplepc.com](mailto:richardbottlesjr@peoplepc.com) or Richard Bottles, Jr., P.O. Box 8029, Fairmont, WV 26554

**Email a Free Ad to [Steve@Ratliff.com](mailto:Steve@Ratliff.com) today! You can send up to four ads to run one at a time in the next four issues. Don't delay - do it today!**

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**A REMINDER: "+" AFTER YOUR AD MEANS IT IS TIME TO RENEW**

## **Appalachian Scrip & Token Association Meeting**

Saturday May 15 9am—2pm Buy-Sell-Trade  
Perry Memorial Methodist Church Shady Spring, WV  
Refreshments Provided Everyone Welcome!

For more information contact Jack Chapman 304/763-5048